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PATENT APPLICATION  
39686.010307

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Examiner: N/Y/A  
: )  
Larry D. Paskar ) Group Art Unit: N/Y/A  
: )  
: )  
Application No.: )  
Continuation of co-pending :  
Application No. 08/910,411 )  
: )  
Filed: August 13, 1997 )  
: )  
For: Catheter with Out-of-Plane :  
Configurations )

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**LETTER**

Dear Sirs:

This correspondence is submitted to provide background to the present newly filed Continuation Application.

Parent Application Status

The present application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. application no. 08/764,745, which is a file wrapper continuation of application no. 08/159,826, which is a continuation in part of the then co-pending application no. 07/834,007, filed on February 11, 1992, which has since issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,304,131; which is a continuation in part of the then co-pending

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parent application no. 07/730,120, filed July 15, 1991, which has since issued as U.S. Patent Number 5,290,229 (hereinafter, "the '229 Patent").

The immediate parent application no. 08/764,745 is under final rejection and is currently before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, which appeal is being dropped in favor of this and two other applications.

Applicant requests the opportunity to meet with the Examiner to illustrate models and a video that were sent to the Examiner in connection with the immediate parent application, to further explain the differences between the present claims and the prior art.

Present Continuation Application

The present continuation application has 22 claims of which claims 1 and 10 are independent.

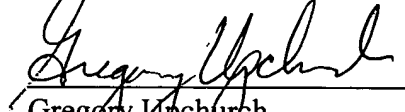
The specification of the continuation application differs from the specification of the '745 application (the immediate parent to this continuation) only by the inclusion of a more detailed discussion of out of plane uses of the instant invention. This more detailed discussion is disclosed in the '745 application as well as the '229 patent. *See* '745 application at page 20, lines 15-20, and page 21, lines 22-24, as well as Figure 15B. Further, these out of plane uses would be inherently obvious to one of skill in the art after reading the '745 application. No new matter has been added to the disclosure and the claims of this continuation application are fully supported by the disclosures of the '229 patent and the '745 application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present continuation application is patentable, and requests favorable consideration.

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Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at (314) 552-6580. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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